INFORMATION LETTER

Not for Publication — NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION — For Members Only

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Can Order, M-25, Revoked

The can order, M-25, was revoked by the National Production Authority on February 6.

The revocation was part of a general decontrol of tin, in which a total of five orders were revoked. In addition to M-25, these other orders were revoked:

M-8, governing the use of tin in many manufactured products; M-24, prescribing maximum tin coatings on such items as food preparation and cooking equipment; M-26, establishing plate specifications and use limitations on tin plate closures; and M-27, limiting tin in collapsible tubes.

Fishery Products Conference to Present Varied Program

The Fishery Products Conference, scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, North Assembly Room, Conrad Hilton Hotel, while stressing probable Washington developments of interest to fish canners under the new administration, will also give marketing of canned fish its share of the Conference spotlight.

Harley V. McNamara, president, National Tea Company, Chicago, will address the session on the "Marketing of Canned Fishery Products." Mr. McNamara is expected to tell the group of some of the difficulties an organization such as his encounters when it attempts to move a canned fishery product onto the housewife's kitchen shelf; what canners can do to help in moving their product, and what they are doing, but perhaps should not do.

Another topic, this one belonging to the Washington scene, of great interest to fish canners, is the tariff and import picture in the years immediately ahead. Rapidly increasing imports of nearly all types of canned fish at low prices in the face of rising costs to domestic packers makes adequate protection for domestic producers a matter of great concern to the industry.

O. R. Strackbein, Chairman of the National Labor-Management Council on Foreign Trade Policy, one of the best-informed authorities on the subject, will report on the prospects for tariff legislation in the new Congress; the difficulties to be overcome in proving a case of injury sufficient to warrant the Tariff Commission's making a favorable recommendation for action to prevent injury; the obstacles in the form of political philosophy and international trade policies and commitments that stand in the way of Presidential action to protect an industry; and what should be asked of the new Congress on trade agreement extension legislation.

One of the topics of greatest continuing interest to fish canners scattered from Alaska to San Diego, from New Orleans to Eastport, Me., is what is happening in Washington. Representative Thor C. Tollefson, serving his fourth term in Congress from the State of Washington, and a member of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, will discuss what Congress is likely to do during the next two years that will affect the fisheries. Mr. Tollefson was chairman of the Fisheries Subcommittee during the 80th Congress and will likely be reappointed to that post again during the 83rd Congress when the Committee has fully organized.

Also available during the Convention for discussion with individual canners on individual or industry problems will be Albert M. Day, Director, Dr. J. L. Kask, Assistant

(Please turn to page 25)

Prices of Meat and Fish, and All Wages Decontrolled

Prices of all meats and edible fish were decontrolled by Amendment 19 to GOR 7, Revision 1, issued and effective February 6.

The Office of Price Stabilization announced that the amendment revokes all price controls on livestock and meat in the United States, and all edible fish, including Maine sardines, canned salmon, and flat lake herring, but excepting processed cod fish sold outside the continental United States.

The OPS announcement stated:

"While the actions revoke the regulations in their entirety, OPS emphasizes that the records relating to past transactions which were kept under the regulations must be retained by the affected parties. However, records of future transactions need not be kept."

By Executive Order, all wage and salary controls were terminated February 6.

Court Voids Further Section of Federal Lobbying Act

The U. S. District Court for the District of Columbia has added one more link to the chain of judicial disapproval being forged about the Federal Registration of Lobbying Act.

In March of 1952 (see INFORMATION LETTER of March 22, 1952, page 131), a special three-judge federal court of the District held that Section 305 of the Lobbying Act was unconstitutional. Section 305, with its supporting sections, requires any person (other than a political committee, but including a trade association) who "directly or indirectly, solicits, collects, or receives money" for lobbying purposes to keep detailed accounts and to file public statements of contributions and expenditures.

In ruling on the constitutionality of this section, the three-judge court based its decision on two grounds: first, that the definition of the offense, as contained in the statute, was too indefinite to apprise persons as to

(Please turn to page 25)

Schedule of Principal Events of the 1953 Convention

(Subject to Revision and Addition)

Wednesday, February 18

9:30 a.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Scientific Research Committee, Room 10, Conrad Hilton
9:30 a.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Home Economics Committee, Room 3, Conrad Hilton
3 p.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Labeling Committee, Room 8, Conrad Hilton
7 p.m.—Dinner, N.C.A. Labeling Committee, Room 9, Conrad Hilton

Thursday, February 19

9 a.m.—Meeting of Canning Industry Research, Inc., Room 6, Conrad Hilton
9:30 a.m.—Committee meetings, National Pickle Packers Association, Sheraton Hotel
10 a.m.—Directors Meeting, National Red Cherry Institute, Morrison Hotel
10 a.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Budget Committee, Room 1005A, Conrad Hilton
12 m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Trust Indenture Special Committee, North Assembly Room, Conrad Hilton
12:30 p.m.—Luncheon meeting of N.C.A. Administrative Council, North Assembly Room, Conrad Hilton
1 p.m.—Board of Directors Meeting, National Pickle Packers Association, Sheraton Hotel
2 p.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Convention Committee, Room 8, Conrad Hilton

Friday, February 20

8 a.m.—National Cherry Pie Baking Contest, Mural Ballroom, Morrison Hotel
9:30 a.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Board of Directors, West Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
10 a.m.—General membership meeting, National Pickle Packers Association, Sheraton Hotel
12 m.—Luncheon meeting, C.M.&S.A. Board of Directors, Ivy Room, Blackstone Hotel
12 m.—Fellowship Luncheon, National Pickle Packers Association, Sheraton Hotel
12:30 p.m.—Luncheon, N.C.A. Board of Directors, South Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
1 p.m.—General Membership Meeting, National Pickle Packers Association, Sheraton Hotel
2 p.m.—Preview of N.C.A. Production and Management Sessions, North Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
4:30 p.m.—Cocktail Party, National Pickle Packers Association, Sheraton Hotel
5:30 p.m.—Annual Meeting, The Forty Niners, North Assembly Room, Conrad Hilton
6 p.m.—Cocktail Party, The Forty Niners, West Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
6 p.m.—Dinner Meeting, N.C.A. Raw Products and Technical Advisory Committees, Room 10, Hilton
7 p.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Resolutions Committee, Room 6, Conrad Hilton
7:30 p.m.—Past Presidents Dinner, C.M.&S.A., Green Room, Blackstone Hotel
8 p.m.—Smoker, N.C.A. Research Advisory Council, Room 4, Conrad Hilton

Saturday, February 21

9 a.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Nominating Committee, North Assembly Room, Conrad Hilton
9:30 a.m.—Business Meeting, National Food Brokers Association, Grand Ballroom, Palmer House
10 a.m.—General Session of N.C.A., North Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.—Canning Machinery & Supplies Exhibit, Exhibit Halls, Conrad Hilton
12:30 p.m.—Luncheon Meeting of N.C.A. Claims Committee, Room 8, Conrad Hilton
2 p.m.—N.C.A. Conference on Raw Products Procurement and Management, South Ballroom, Hilton
2 p.m.—Conference on High Temperature-Short Time Processing Methods and Equipment, joint sponsorship of N.C.A. and C.M.&S.A., Upper Tower, Hilton
2 p.m.—Business Meeting of N.F.B.A., Palmer House
2 p.m.—Meeting of Perishable Agricultural Products Processing Equipment Manufacturers Institute, Room 14, Conrad Hilton
5 p.m.—Drawings for Attendance Awards, C.M.&S.A., Exhibit Hall, Conrad Hilton
5 p.m.—Meeting of Hamilton Q.M. Club, LaSalle Hotel
6 p.m.—Old Guard Dinner, North Assembly Room, Conrad Hilton

Sunday, February 22

8 a.m.—Breakfast, Cooperative Processors Association, North Assembly Room, Conrad Hilton
9:30 a.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Legislative Committee, Room 14, Conrad Hilton
9:30 a.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Statistics Committee, Room 8, Conrad Hilton
10 a.m.—N.C.A. Conference on Quality Protection and Food Regulation, North Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
10 a.m.—Annual Meeting of C.M.&S.A., West Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
1–5:30 p.m.—C.M.&S.A. Exhibit, Conrad Hilton
2 p.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Raw Products Technical Advisory Committee, Room 8, Conrad Hilton
4 p.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Fishery Products Committee, Room 5, Conrad Hilton
5 p.m.—Drawings for Attendance Awards, Exhibit Hall, Conrad Hilton
6:30 p.m.—Dinner, N.C.A. Fishery Products Committee, Room 5, Conrad Hilton
6:30 p.m.—State Secretaries Dinner, Room 2, Hilton
8 p.m.—N.C.A. Raw Products Smoker, Room 4, Hilton

Monday, February 23

9 a.m.—Meeting of Associated Independent Canners, Room 14, Conrad Hilton
9:30 a.m.—Meeting of N.C.A. Procurement Committee, Room 4, Conrad Hilton
9:30 a.m.—N.C.A. Conference on Field Management Problems, South Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
10 a.m.—N.C.A. Conference on Production Problems and Special Products, Upper Tower, Conrad Hilton
10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.—C.M.&S.A. Exhibit, Hilton
2 p.m.—N.C.A. Conference on Improving Efficiency of Production and Distribution, Upper Tower, Conrad Hilton
2:30 p.m.—Meeting of National Kraut Packers Association, Room 9, Conrad Hilton
5 p.m.—Drawings for Attendance Awards, Exhibit Hall, Conrad Hilton
7 p.m.—Young Guard Banquet, Terrace Casino, Morrison Hotel

Tuesday, February 24

9:30 a.m.—N.C.A. Catsup Standards Meeting, Room 4, Conrad Hilton
10 a.m.—N.C.A. Conference on Military Procurement, South Ballroom, Conrad Hilton
10:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m.—C.M.&S.A. Exhibit, Hilton
12:15 p.m.—Luncheon Meeting, National Meat Canners Association, Ballroom, Blackstone Hotel
2 p.m.—N.C.A. Fishery Products Conference, North Assembly Room, Conrad Hilton
5 p.m.—Drawings for Attendance Awards, Exhibit Hall, Conrad Hilton
7 p.m.—Annual Dinner Dance, C.M.&S.A., Grand Ballroom, Sheraton Hotel

Wednesday, February 25

10:30 a.m.–3 p.m.—C.M.&S.A. Exhibit, Conrad Hilton
2:30 p.m.—Drawings for Attendance Awards, Exhibit Hall, Conrad Hilton

1953 Convention Program

(Concluded from page 23)

Director, Dr. L. A. Walford, Branch of Fishery Biology; Mr. A. W. Anderson and W. E. Stolting, Branch of Commercial Fisheries—all of the Fish and Wildlife Service; and Fred F. Johnson, Defense Fisheries Administration, Department of Interior. Also in attendance will be Leslie Robinson, U. S. Tariff Commission; W. C. Herrington, Department of State; a representative of the Veterans Administration; and R. W. Tyson, Mutual Security Agency.

All of the government representatives will maintain headquarters in the Fishery Products Office and can be reached there. The telephone number will be listed in the *Convention Directory*.

Certain other features of interest to particular groups of fish canner members are being arranged and the affected members will be notified in time to permit arranging their schedules in order to participate in these special events.

CONGRESS

State of the Union

President Eisenhower's first message to Congress on the State of the Union recommended a number of legislative actions of concern to the canning industry.

Price Controls—The President stated that he does not intend to ask for renewal of the present price and wage controls on April 30, when present legislation expires. "In the meantime," he said, "steps will be taken to eliminate controls in an orderly manner, and to terminate special agencies no longer needed for this purpose.

Materials Controls—The President recommended an end to material and product controls except with respect to "defense priorities and scarce and critical items essential for our defense." The President said that he will recommend that legislation be enacted to continue authority for such remaining controls after the expiration of present authority for materials controls on June 30.

Agriculture—New policies and new programs for agriculture must await the completion of studies now being made by the 14-man Special Agricultural Advisory Commission, the President stated.

FDA Factory Inspection—"Public interest similarly demands one prompt specific action in protection of the general consumer," the President's message said. "The Food and Drug Administration should be authorized to continue its established and necessary program of factory inspection. The invalidation of these inspections by the Supreme Court of December 8, 1952, was based solely on the fact that the present law contained inconsistent and unclear provisions. These must be promptly corrected."

Foreign Trade—The President also recommended extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act but with safeguards for domestic industries, agriculture, and labor standards.

Standby Economic Controls

A bill to provide for continuing authority to invoke price, wage, rent, priority and allocation, and credit controls was introduced February 2 by Senator Capehart (Ind.), chairman of the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency.

The bill, S. 753, recognizes that direct controls are incompatible with the American free enterprise system and that since prices are now generally in normal relationship, direct controls are no longer necessary to maintain such stability. However, recognizing the need for fast executive action in event of war, the bill authorizes controls if an emergency should develop involving serious economic dislocations threatening the national security and welfare.

A National Advisory Council composed of members appointed by the President and subject to Senate confirmation, representative of business and industry, agriculture, labor, the military, and consumers, would be created. Except in event of war, the President would be required to consult with the Board before invoking any of these economic controls.

The Capehart bill does not contain the 1952 amendment to the Defense Production Act decontrolling fruits or vegetables in fresh or processed form.

STANDARDS

Grades for Canned Snap Beans

The Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, has revised U. S. standards for grades of canned green beans and canned wax beans, effective March 1.

LABOR

Agricultural Employment

While employment in business, manufacturing and other nonagricultural work maintained a record high in 1952, employment in agriculture continued its long-term downward trend, according to a summary of estimates by the Bureau of the Census, U. S. Department of Commerce.

Since 1940, when the Census Bureau first published monthly employment statistics, employment in nonagricultural industries has risen steadily whereas employment in agriculture has followed a reverse course. While the number of persons employed in nonagricultural pursuits increased by approximately 16.5 million from the 1940 estimate of 37,980,000, the number employed in agricultural pursuits decreased by nearly 2.75 million from the 1940 estimate of 9,540,000.

Lobbying Act

(Concluded from page 23)

what constitutes a violation; and second, that the penalty prescribed by the statute, which included loss of the right to attempt to influence the passage or defeat of legislation for a period of three years, was a violation of the constitutional rights of every citizen to petition Congress.

Because the remaining sections of the Act, which require persons who engage for pay, or for any consideration, to attempt to influence the passage or defeat of legislation by Congress, to register with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and with the Secretary of the Senate, and to file certain quarterly reports, were not involved in the case, the three-judge court did not rule on the constitutionality of these provisions.

A Supreme Court review of the earlier decision was unobtainable because the issue of the trade association's compliance had become moot during the progress of the litigation.

The District Court for the District of Columbia has now ruled that the vice of the penalty provisions of the Act is equally controlling in respect to those sections of the Act not passed upon in the earlier proceeding. A criminal information against the National Farm Committee and individual defendants for failure to comply with the registration and reporting requirements for persons who receive pay for attempting to influence legislation was dismissed on the same grounds. The case is entitled *U. S. v. Robert M. Harriss.*

STATISTICS

Poultry Canned in 1952

The quantity of poultry canned or used in canning during the year 1952 was the largest for any year of record, according to a report by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

The 1952 total was 193,790,000 pounds, compared with 170,774,000 pounds in 1951, the year of the previous record high.

Poultry Canned in U. S.[a]
(Dressed Weight)

Month	1951 (pounds)	1925[b] (pounds)
January	17,379,000	13,425,000
February	14,370,000	12,562,000
March	17,425,000	17,263,000
April	16,382,000	14,943,000
May	17,103,000	11,727,000
June	14,902,000	17,169,000
July	12,325,000	15,354,000
August	14,060,000	16,229,000
September	9,898,000	15,570,000
October	13,626,000	21,816,000
November	10,789,000	19,893,000
December	12,515,000	17,839,000
U. S. Total	170,774,000	193,790,000

[a] In all plants, inspected and others.
[b] Preliminary.

The Fruit Situation

With total supplies of fruit for the first half of 1953 smaller than a year earlier and demand continuing strong, grower prices for most fruits are expected to continue higher than in the winter and spring of 1952, according to *The Fruit Situation* issued by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Although prices for oranges and apples are higher this season than last, they may increase further this winter and spring, and prices for grapefruit also may rise somewhat, according to BAE.

Year-end stocks of canned fruits and fruit juices and frozen fruits were smaller than a year earlier. In contrast, stocks of frozen citrus juices were larger. Moreover, the current packs of canned and frozen citrus juices in Florida are running larger than a year ago. Total supplies of fruit in prospect for the first half of 1953 are large enough to maintain consumption close to the rate of a year earlier.

Citrus Export Program

Under the export payment program, about 31,000 cases (24/2's) of single-strength orange juice, over 260,000 gallons of hot-pack concentrated orange juice, and 5,000 cases of blended juice had been exported or declared for export through January 17.

Through January 17, 40,000 cases (24/2's) of canned single-strength grapefruit juice, 18,000 gallons of concentrated grapefruit juice, and about 5,000 cases of grapefruit sections had been exported or declared for export under the program.

Parity Prices

The index of prices received by farmers decreased more during the past year than did the index of prices paid by farmers, with the result that on January 15 the parity ratio was 10 points lower than on the same date in 1952, according to a January 30 report by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Indexes 1910–14 = 100	Jan. 15, 1952	Jan. 15, 1953
Prices received by farmers	300	267
Prices paid by farmers[a]	287	282
Parity ratio	105	95

[a] Prices paid, interest, taxes, farm wage rates.

During the month ended January 15, 1953, lower prices for dairy products, cotton, truck crops, eggs and gains were only partially offset by higher average prices for hogs, calves, sheep, lambs, potatoes, and some fruits.

Truck Crops—The index of truck crop prices at 237 on January 15 was down 19 points or 7 percent from the previous month. Lower prices for tomatoes, lettuce, cabbage, and carrots accounted for most of the decline. This decline is contrary to the customary price movement for this time of year. With the prospective 1953 winter production of each of these crops above both last year and the 1949-51 average, the January index was the lowest for that month since 1947.

1952 Prices to Growers for Fruits for Processing

Following is a compilation of 1952 season-average prices paid to growers for fruits for processing, compared with 1951 prices, as reported by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Commodity and Unit	1951 (dollars)	1952 (dollars)	Change (percent)
Apples for processing, ton	25.30	43.80	+73
Apricots for processing, ton	115.00	93.90	−18
Blackberries, pound	.156	.097	−38
Boysenberries, pound	.137	.125	− 9
Loganberries, pound	.130	.100	−23
Raspberries, black, pound	.152	.141	− 7
Raspberries, red, pound	.177	.175	− 1
Cherries, sour, ton	138.00	122.00	−12
Cherries, sweet, ton	295.00	201.00	−32
Cranberries, barrel	14.40	18.00	+25
Figs for processing, ton	148.00	135.00	− 9
Olives for processing, ton	230.00	134.00	−42
Peaches, cling for processing, ton	77.40	65.00	−16
Peaches, freestone for processing, ton	62.70	54.20	−14
Pears for processing, ton	96.00	44.40	−54
Plums for processing, ton	65.70	63.00	− 4
Prunes for processing, ton	49.80	49.60	....
Strawberries for processing, crate	5.72	5.35	− 6

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Congress	
State of the Union	25
Standby economic controls	25
Convention	
Fishery Products Conference to present varied program	23
Schedule of principal events of the 1953 Convention	24
Defense	
Can order, M-25, revoked	23
Prices of meat and fish, and all wages decontrolled	23
Labor	
Agricultural employment	25
Lobbying	
Court voids further section of federal Lobbying Act	23
Standards	
Grades for canned snap beans	25
Statistics	
Poultry canned in 1952	26
The fruit situation	26
Parity prices	26
1952 prices to growers for fruits for processing	26